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THE WEEKLY FOR LESBIANS AND GAY MALES

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# GayCommunityNews

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October 30, 1982

## Demo Supports Victims of Raid On N.Y. Bar

*By Bob Nelson and Peg Byron*

NEW YORK — In a show of solidarity with the victims of two recent police raids of Blue's, a Midtown black gay bar, over 1,000 lesbians and gay men demonstrated in Times Square on Friday, October 15.

Protesters carried banners reading "Fight police brutality" and "Hands off Blue's." As the march proceeded down 42nd Street, black teenagers lining the sidewalks took up the chant, "We're fired up — won't take it no more," but few seemed to know what the demonstration was about.

The march and rally were organized by a coalition of community groups, including the All People's Congress and a Third World coalition.



Rev. Renee McCoy: "To the New York City police, I have a message. I hope you have enjoyed your days of glory because they are coming to an end. I promise you that."

## Local Politicians Gear Up For the Gay Vote

*By Larry Goldsmith*

BOSTON — If there is an unnoticed bestseller in the bookstores surrounding Beacon Hill and City Hall Plaza, it must surely be Randy Shilts' biography of Harvey Milk, *The Mayor of Castro Street*. Observers of electoral politics in this city have begun to speak with increasing frequency about the "gay vote" as an important factor in the outcome of many local elections. And local politicians, both gay and straight, have begun to mention the book and hint that the circumstances which brought electoral power to lesbians and gay men in San Francisco might be transferable to Boston.

Last November, Boston voters overwhelmingly passed a referendum providing for city councilors, now elected at large, to be chosen by district. The new district lines, drawn up earlier this year by a controversial council committee, include at least one district which could send a lesbian or gay man to



But an activist contacted after the march disagreed on whether Cochran's presence was a concession to the gay community or a sign of fear that things might get out of hand.

Louis Colon, a bartender and security guard at Blue's, told *GCN* that demonstrators had been making posters at the back of the bar that afternoon. "We appreciate the publicity and the help," said Colon, "but they don't know the inside facts. It leads me to wonder if they are doing it for us or just demonstrating for themselves. It's going to aggravate the cops."

A group of dock loaders gathered outside the New York *Times* had an even more jaundiced view of the demonstration. "You're trying to say the cops beat those people up because they were gay," said one. "That's not true. The reason the cops went in there is they busted up a cop." Said another, "The place is a nuisance, it's a toilet. They're men in drag. Look at the size of their feet. If they kept it inside, I don't care, but don't bring it out on the street."

But the demonstrators took little notice of the nay-sayers and

seemed buoyed by an atmosphere of anger and power. "It's about time we did something like this," said a woman named Lisette. "We should have the same enthusiasm in June." Another protester agreed, saying, "This is more spirited than those gay pride marches. The air is very electric." As the march passed Blue's on West 43rd Street, activists chanted, "Out of the bars and into the streets!" and "We want justice!"

The march seemed to grow in numbers and the rally at 46th

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## NGTF's Boozier Claims DC Office Imperiled

*By David Morris*

WASHINGTON — Melvin Boozier, who, as director of civil rights advocacy for the National Gay Task Force, heads the organization's Washington office, has claimed that he will be fired and the office will be eliminated if Ginny Apuzzo is hired as NGTF executive director.

Amid charges of a secret plan to align NGTF with the Democratic Party and to hire Apuzzo to further that change, current director Lucia Valeska announced earlier this month that she will resign effective November 1 (see *GCN*, Vol. 10, No. 13). Her announcement followed several weeks of controversy during which eight members of the NGTF board of directors tried unsuccessfully to

fire her.

Valeska has since told *GCN* that the charges of a plan to align NGTF with the Democrats are accurate. She said she doubts that the board will abide by an agreement setting the terms for her resignation by which the organization was to remain non-partisan.

Meanwhile, the executive committee of the NGTF board voted during the weekend of October 2 to recommend that the directorship of NGTF be combined with that of the Fund for Human Dignity, a fundraising organization affiliated with NGTF. Apuzzo is currently executive director of the Fund and will presumably fill the combined directorship if the change is approved by the boards of NGTF and the Fund, in which

case no open search for a new director will be carried out.

Apuzzo acknowledges that she told Boozier on October 4 that she was "predisposed to not retaining him" because of his strained relations with Washington-area activists, with Gay Rights National Lobby, with the Human Rights Campaign Fund and with the gay press and because she "didn't know what Melvin Boozier was doing programmatically in DC."

Valeska told *GCN* that Boozier "has been doing his job really superbly. He's an outstanding individual. I have no significant criticism of any decision he has made."

Valeska added that her support for Boozier had been a factor in the

*Continued on page 2*

### BLGPA Endorsements

After their Candidates' Night on Oct. 20, the Steering Committee of the Boston Lesbian and Gay Political Alliance (BLGPA) issued the following endorsements:

<b>United States Senator</b> Edward M. Kennedy	
<b>Governor</b> Michael Dukakis	
<b>State Senator</b>	
Second Suffolk District Suffolk Middlesex District Middlesex Suffolk District	Bill Owens Michael LoPresti, Jr. George Bachrach
<b>State Representative</b>	
First Suffolk District Third Suffolk District Sixth Suffolk District Eighth Suffolk District Ninth Suffolk District Eleventh Suffolk District Eighteenth Suffolk District	Emanuel (Gus) Serra Salvatore DiMasi Royal Bolling, Jr. Thomas Vallye James Young Eleanor Myerson Thomas Gallagher

*Continued on page 3*



# News Notes

## gay sex and porn

INDIANAPOLIS — A jury has decided that, according to "community standards" here, hard-core homosexual activity depicted on film is obscene.

After viewing "Triple Work Out," a three-woman, three-man jury found George Saliba, an adult bookstore owner, guilty of distributing obscene material, according to *The Works*, a gay newsletter published here.

Rick Kammen, attorney for Saliba, stated in his opening remarks that "homosexuality is on trial in Indianapolis." The jury had acquitted a defendant of the same charge last year because they did not find that the film in question, a hard-core heterosexual film, was obscene.

Kammen said that the jury in Saliba's trial was extremely conservative and "not representative of the Marion County community," which has an estimated gay population of over 80,000. One of the jurors is an active member of the Indianapolis Baptist Temple, which is led by an anti-gay activist.

Prosecutor Philip Blowers repeatedly denied that homosexuality was an issue in the trial, *The Works* reported.

Saliba will appeal the case, partly on the ground that Judge A. Toni Cordingly would not allow into evidence a recent public opinion poll which indicated that a majority of the local residents hold liberal attitudes concerning sexually explicit materials.

## dreamjeans

BERN, Switzerland — A Swiss jean manufacturer has had to remove from public view a wrath of posters with a distinctively non-heterosexual appeal, according to the German magazine *Du und Ich*.

Rifle, Inc. slapped up a series of posters showing a nude man from behind whose hips were being grasped by two hands that were *not* unmistakably feminine. Conservative elements in Switzerland raised such a fuss about the advertisements, which bore the legend "Dreamjeans," that they were torn down by the advertiser.

## free brunch for voters

CAMBRIDGE and SOMERVILLE, MA — Voters here are invited to meet Peter Vellucci, Democratic candidate for state representative from the 29th District, at a brunch donated by the Paradise Bar.

The brunch, which is sponsored by the Friends of Vellucci in the Cambridge Lesbian/Gay Political Caucus, will be held on October 24 at 2 p.m.

For more information, call Brian at (617) 497-1265 or Mondo at (617) 354-1755.

## regal tears

ANCHORAGE, AK — The annual Coronation Ball here was brought to a tearful and frightening end when two men tossed a tear gas cannister onto the crowded dance floor of the Sheraton Hotel.

At the time of the attack, some 1,000 lesbians and gay men were in attendance at the formal event. Earlier in the week, four bars along 4th Avenue, all of which feature nude entertainment, had been similarly gassed.

According to the Anchorage *Daily News*, the party goes, "bedecked in white satin and black leather, silk capes with sequins and costume jewelry, top hats, tails and slinky dresses," rushed madly for the door when the canister exploded. No one was seriously hurt.

## "before stonewall" funded

NEW YORK — An independent filmmaker has been awarded \$130,000 by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting to make a documentary on the hidden history of the homosexual rights movement prior to the 1970's, according to the *Philadelphia Gay News*.

"Before Stonewall," produced by Robbie Rosenberg, will be used for theatrical, educational and community screenings and aired on PBS network stations beginning next winter.

Allan Berube of the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay History Project, Jonathan Katz, author of *Gay American History* and Joan Nestle of the Lesbian Herstory Archives are acting as resource persons to Rosenberg in the creation of the film.

Although National Community Funds and many individuals have made additional contributions to the project, production cannot begin until \$90,000 more is raised. Films, photographs, newspapers and other scraps of our history are also needed by Rosenberg.

Write to "Before Stonewall," c/o Middlemarch Films, 1619 Broadway, 9th floor, New York, NY 10019.

## the great she-elephant reigns

MBABANE, Swaziland — A woman is running the affairs of an African nation for the first time in the written history of this country.

Following the death of King Sobhuza the Second, his mother, affectionately known to her followers as "The Great She-Elephant," took charge until an inner circle of royal family members chooses a male successor from among Sobhuza's more than 600 children.

## mime on record, on tour

SAN FRANCISCO — The San Francisco Mime Troupe has released a record of four songs from last summer's acclaimed play, "Factwino Meets the 'Moral Majority'" (see GCN Vol.9, No.46). They include: "Armies of the Night," "Because You're Stupid," and the "Armageddonman Theme."

The record can be ordered for \$4.00 from the S.F. Mime Troupe, 855 Treat Street, San Francisco, CA 94110.

In November and December the Mime Troupe will be touring Quebec and the Northeast with its play "Americans or Last Tango in Huahuateno," about repression and revolution in Central America. Performances are planned for Ottawa and Montreal during early November, then in Burlington, Montpelier and Lyndonville, Vermont; Hanover, New Hampshire; and Old Westbury, New York. After its Boston engagement the Troupe plans to perform in Philadelphia and Washington D.C.

The troupe will play in New York City on November 24-28, Boston December 3-5, then move on to Philadelphia and Washington.

## jewish lesbians writing

BOSTON — A writer's group for Jewish lesbians has just formed here.

The group's organizer, Judith Stein, hopes that its bi-monthly meetings will provide members with "a place where [we] can confront the intersection of three distinct identities: Jew, Lesbian and writer."

Any style of writing is welcomed and no formal writer's training is required. The next meeting is on October 28.

For information, call (617) 547-2874.

## third world prisoners in print

NEW YORK — Formerly and currently incarcerated gay men of color and others are invited to submit poetry, stories, articles, graphics and photographs for publication in *Blackheart 2: Prison Issue*, a journal devoted to third world men behind bars.

The Blackheart Collective is a union of black gay men "committed to using art as a vehicle for political awareness," according to a member.

*Blackheart 2: Prison Issue* and *Blackheart 1: Yemcnja* are available free of charge to incarcerated brothers and sisters by writing to the Collective at P.O. Box 1420, New York, NY 10027. Submissions should be sent to the same address. Please send copies only of original art work and manuscripts; submissions cannot be returned.

## headquarters raided

NEW YORK — People's Anti-War Mobilization (PAM) has quickly put its office back into working order after five men ransacked it on October 4 and threatened two members with a gun.

According to PAM members Paul Garret and Cornelia Radkai, five men entered the office that Monday evening after hiding in the hallway, and threw equipment such as telephones, mimeo machines and typewriters on the floor. The men reportedly told them to "stop organizing against Israel" and threatened to "kill your Jew girl leader."

PAM members told GCN that they had gotten the license number of the vehicle used by the five men but did not know how to trace it. The same men have been seen hanging around PAM events, a member said.

Members of PAM did not report the incident to the police, but called a press conference for the following day, at which Dr. Helen Rodriguez-Trias, a Puerto Rican Activist, and Daniel Berrigan, an anti-war activist, made statements of support.

Gwendolyn Brooks of PAM's Lesbian and Gay Focus told GCN that most of the broken telephones and other equipment have been repaired.

## even in the best of herds

EDMONTON, Canada — The presence of gay bulls in herds here is costing their keepers a lot of money in repairs to broken gates and fences, according to the *Body Politic*.

Farmers report that the participants in these "bull sessions" get pretty rambunctious, as the "'tops' fight for the opportunity to get at the willing 'bottom'."

An animal scientist at the University of Alberta has found that "it's apparently very common for bulls to hop on one another, but these particular bulls will not move away in disgust — instead, they will host one ton-heavy bull after another, endangering their own well-being."

Some farmers have attempted to eliminate this costly activity by "putting an escape chute [on the 'passive' bull] so he can go in there and not be jumped," according to the scientist. But the problem is not that easily resolved, says the scientist, because the "gay" bulls "want to be jumped." Therefore, the only way to keep the critters apart is to "go in there with a horse and drag him out with a rope." (The scientist did not consider the possibility that the humpers — as well as the humpees — are "gay.")

"It can happen in the best of herds," the scientist concluded.

News Notes compiled this week by Jil Clark.

# NGTF

*Continued from page 1*

effort to oust her from NGTF. She said board member Bill Rogers of Oklahoma City, who strongly supported the move to fire her, had warned that he would do so if she did not fire Boozer. Rogers told GCN that Boozer "was not performing the job that he was being paid to do and that that reflected upon my opinion of her management ability."

Board member Jose Gomez of San Francisco said Boozer's position is not being threatened. "The director of civil rights advocacy is not in question, never has been," he said. "He keeps making it an issue and I'm not sure why."

It was Gomez who introduced the resolution to fire Valeska.

Boozer charges that his position is being threatened by the same political machine currently taking shape that was responsible for Valeska's forced resignation. He said he had been sharply criticized by NGTF and Fund board members for failing to support the candi-

dacy of Washington Mayor Marion Barry and for helping to form a second gay Democratic club in Washington, constitutionally protected activities he engaged in as an individual. He said Jeffrey Karples of the Fund board had warned him that it would become difficult to raise money for the Fund unless Boozer supported Barry. Karples could not be reached for comment.

Boozer said Bill Rogers claimed Boozer had failed to perform his job by not learning of a Department of Energy ruling concerning security clearances for gay people until the ruling was reported in the press. Boozer told GCN that since NGTF does not subscribe to the *Federal Register*, it is difficult to keep abreast of actions like the DOE ruling. Rogers countered that the *Federal Register* is available in the public library but Valeska told GCN, "The DOE business was really seized upon by a couple of people who were looking desperately for some reason to say the

Washington office of the National Gay Task Force wasn't doing its job. They really didn't have anything concrete to hang their hats on and they seized upon that."

Valeska said the board had reviewed the DOE issue and had been satisfied with Boozer's performance.

Rogers admitted he had criticized Boozer's role in founding the Langston Hughes Gay Democratic Club. "I think one reaches a point," he said, "when one must weigh the necessity of cooperating with existing gay structures and forming another structure. . . Mel is a full-time employee and made a determination to be very active in the formation of what might be considered a rival gay political organization."

Boozer, who is black, said the Hughes Club was formed specifically to include more women and black people than the existing Gertrude Stein Democratic Club has.

Apuzzo said neither Boozer's

failure to support Barry nor his part in founding the Langston Hughes Democratic Club was a factor in her reluctance to retain him. And Jose Gomez said that after considering the two issues, the board found no wrongdoing on Boozer's part.

Valeska implied that gay Democratic clubs, which have recently joined in a national association, may have played some part in the effort to replace her with Apuzzo and to fire Boozer. "I know that the leadership in the gay Democratic clubs were very much aware of what was going on and when it was going to happen and how it was going to happen. I can't tell you more than that because I just don't know."

Concerning the possibility of more partisan activity in NGTF's future, Jose Gomez commented, "The next presidential election is two years away. There is still time. I'm not saying we shouldn't have already started doing something. That's part of the problem we've

had. I think we need to do a lot more in the political arena. . . It would be very foolish for NGTF to stick its head in the sand and say we're not going to be political. It has to be political and has to be involved in the electoral process."

Valeska attributed the recent events to a "maturation" of the lesbian and gay movement. "The mainstream political arena operates differently than fledgling movements for social change and civil rights movements in general. That transition is generally made if you get powerful enough. And it's not always pleasant."

She said accommodation to the present conservative political climate in this country is "only peripherally" involved. "I think it has much more to do with mainstream politics in this country. There are rules that you play by and if you don't play by them, you're out."

— filed from Boston



# Sperm Bank Welcomes Unmarried Recipients

By Jil Clark

OAKLAND, CA — Single women, including lesbians, who want to have children by artificial insemination but have been turned down by doctors and clinics because they are not married are flocking to a new sperm bank here.

The staff of the Feminist Women's Health Center has opened a sperm bank which, unlike the nation's dozen or so others, requires only that a woman be healthy and want to have a child.

"Most sperm banks are geared toward the medical indication of infertility, where you have a woman and a man and the poor couple should have a baby," said Barbara Raboy of the clinic. "This is the first program that is really geared toward different populations, including lesbians."

Since announcing the opening of the sperm bank on October 5, workers at the ten-year-old health center have received between 700 and 800 inquiries from interested women and donors in nearly every state in the union.

Only a third of the women calling were interested in artificial insemination for medical reasons, said Raboy. The vast majority called the bank for reasons of "lifestyle and sexual preference."

The bank differs from others in the way it screens donors. "Other sperm banks go into medical schools and get the sperm of students or residents. We don't think that the sperm of a garbage man is qualitatively any different from the sperm of a doctor, so we are not going to do that. [Nor are we going to] pay attention to information about I.Q. If you believe that that has a lot more to do with opportunity and environment than genetic origin, it's irrelevant."

"It's the same with race: most sperm bank donors are blond-haired, blue-eyed — Aryan. So what happens with the mixed couple that is infertile? They have no place to go. We are going to have such a wide range that women will really have a choice."

The information which will be entered in the donor catalog will include height, weight, race, hair color and texture, eye color, sexual preference, the occupation of each donor and educational background.

Asked whether staff will help women who want female children to maximize the chance of this happening, Parker said yes, adding, "But you are the first reporter to ask that question. It doesn't occur to them [to ask] because they imagine that all women want boys."

As part of the program, staffers will also store sperm "for men who are getting vasectomies but want an 'insurance policy' in case they decide to have more children later. We want to support men participating in birth control with their wives."

Fresh sperm are used for inseminating whenever timing allows. Otherwise, women will use vials of thawed-out frozen sperm that has been kept in tanks of liquid nitrogen.

How have conservatives responded to the opening of the new bank? "We've gotten some nasty letters from types like the Coalition for Human Fitness in Oklahoma. They say, 'This is wrong. God doesn't want this to happen.' The same people who picket our abortion clinics, make bomb threats, attempt to fire-bomb the place, throw eggs and tomatoes at the walls and break the windows — the same people are picking up this bandwagon . . . Frankly, we'd get worried if we started doing something and there was no opposition to it."

What measures have been taken to protect lesbians who use the bank from custody challenges in the distant future? "Strict confidentiality," said Parker. "The woman is never known to the donor and the donor is never known to the woman."

Parker added, "We have written a strong contract which the donor must sign, waiving all rights

and claims to custody of the child."

Out of respect for the child's right to know the identity of the father, staffers provide donors with an opportunity to sign a statement which states that his identity may be revealed to the child when she or he is of legal age.

At this time, sperm banks have few restrictions imposed on them. Parker said she "wouldn't be surprised" if the opening of this bank triggers an explosion of new regulations governing sperm banks, "but we'll cross that bridge when we come to it. One thing we don't intend to do is close our doors."

The cost of the medical exam, "fertility awareness" class, insemination visits and follow-up pregnancy test ranges between \$50 and \$150, depending on the woman's income — compared to a cost of about \$300 at other sperm banks around the country. The cost of semen is extra, ranging between \$40 and \$50.

Donors are paid between \$1 and \$45. Why the wide range? "Many men who have called are gay men who want to participate because they know lesbians will be using the bank," said Parker. "They

don't want money, but in order to enforce the contract, we have to

give them something — a dollar."

Parker said the health center is seeking donations to cover the cost of artificially inseminating lesbians, who cannot afford the service. "The responsibility of taking care of the entire gay community cannot rest on this clinic. We need the help of those who have money or who have had their families or who have artificially inseminated and know the joy of that."

Send donations to the Feminist Women's Health Center, 2930 McClellan Street, Oakland, CA 94609, or for information call (415) 444-2014.

— filed from Boston



Susan Fleischmann



Susan Fleischmann

A large number of lesbians and gay men were among the more than 1,000 demonstrators at Boston's Government Center on Saturday, October 16, to show their opposition to the Ku Klux Klan. The Klan had announced a rally to protest the fact that no charges would be filed against persons who pelted KKK Imperial Wizard Bill Wilkinson with eggs and tomatoes during a live television program two days earlier. Police removed the 23 robed klansmen to safety when anti-Klan demonstrators rushed toward them as they approached Government Center. Police on horseback, on motorcycles and on foot then charged into the crowd of demonstrators, clubbing and macing many of them. Thirteen anti-Klan demonstrators were treated for injuries inflicted by the police. "I hate to use a cliché, but it was police brutality. They completely overreacted," said one of the victims, a woman who had received 15 stitches for her injuries. The anti-Klan demonstration had been organized by a number of groups, including the Lesbian and Gay Focus of the People's Anti-War Mobilization.



Jeremy Grainger



Jeremy Grainger

## Elections

Continued from page 1

Valley, who has himself sponsored gay rights legislation during his two years in office, took issue at the *Ledger* debate with Kaplan's liaison proposal. "I will not have a liaison," Valley explained, "because I have a relationship *myself* with the gay community." That relationship earned Valley the endorsement of the Massachusetts Gay Political Caucus and the Campaign for Social Justice in the September primary. As for professional experience, Valley can always point to his two years' tenure in the legislature.

Much of the audience which packed the Back Bay's Old South Church for the Valley/Kaplan debate never returned from intermission to hear incumbent State Senator Bill Owens, a Republican by virtue of unusual circumstances, debate former State Rep. Royal Bolling, Sr., a Democrat most outspokenly. The exodus was unfortunate, both because the

race is an important one and because, if nothing else, the second act was better theater than the first.

Bolling (to avoid confusion, this is the *elder* Bolling, father to State Rep. Royal, Jr., and Boston City Councillor Bruce) is a feisty, old-fashioned politician, proud of the friends he made during twelve years as a state representative and eager to return to the legislature after eight years' absence. Bolling's statements at the debate came from the end of a verbal shotgun; he is running on his image as an experienced Democrat, opposed to Reaganomics and Republicans in any form.

But Bill Owens entered the Republican Party through an unusual door. After seven years as a Democratic Senator, Owens switched parties last year as a reaction to what he termed an abuse of power by party leadership in the

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### Correction

The News Note in *GCN*, Vol. 10, No. 13, headlined "Majority Oppose Discrimination" should have been attributed to the *Washington Blade*, the newspaper from which it was taken.

We regret the omission.

### Correction

In the article on Lucia Valdeska's resignation in *GCN*, Vol. 10, No. 13, Washington gay activist Joe Tom Easley was incorrectly identified as a member of the board of directors of the National Gay Task Force.

We regret the error.



# Community Voices

## hrcf

Dear GCN:

Bob Nelson's attack on the Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner in New York is only exceeded in arrogance by GCN's editorial decision to allow Nelson's piece, along with a front page photo and caption, to stand as the only coverage GCN gave of Walter Mondale's speech before 800 gay men, lesbians and supporters. The failure of GCN's editors to provide a factual news story of a speech which many people in our community believe to be an important and pivotal event in the development of gay political power indicates a decision which has become increasingly evident on the pages of GCN: mainstream politics are to be downplayed at best, and otherwise treated with contempt. Readers seriously concerned and working actively with the National Gay Rights Bills, Democratic Party, political elections, the Gay Rights National Lobby, and crucial races like Barney Frank vs. Margaret Heckler are not having our needs met in GCN.

Throughout his commentary, Nelson assumes that people working for the Human Rights Campaign Fund are some magical newly-materialized gay elite who are cut off from local activism and advocate a "top-down approach" to gay rights. This is simply not my experience. The working committees of the Human Rights Campaign Fund in all of the cities I know are comprised of many of the same people who have worked on grass roots projects for years — including local marches and demonstrations, legal advocacy, city and state lobbying efforts, campaigns against anti-gay violence, improved health care, and the lesbian and gay media. They are people who have worked on local issues for years and understand the value of marshalling national support for gay rights at this time. I do not understand how people can look alarmingly at the rise of the Right, recent attacks of reproductive rights, the development of insidious anti-gay legislation and condescendingly trash members of our community who are working in *any* way to stop these attacks. There are so many lesbians and gay men who do absolutely nothing to fight the Right and yet it becomes easy to attack those who are doing so much.

Nelson makes it clear that he would prefer to see the money that is going into HRCF political war chests going into "community job centers to help underprivileged gays." I believe that HRCF is tapping a largely untapped source of revenue for our community and many HRCF donors are giving money for the first time to a gay cause. I believe that the strong fundraising successes of the HRCF are a positive sign for our entire community and that it will result in an increased ability to fundraise from our own community for all kinds of projects. Again, it is easier to attack those gay people giving money to the HRCF than it is to attack the overwhelming majority of our community who would never ever give money to either gay politics or gay job centers.

Nelson's statement that "We need to be visible on local issues of concern to us, for it is only our visibility that will erode that attitudes on which initiatives such as the Family Protection Act are built" seems ignorant of the development of our movement. What have we been doing for the past 13 years but getting involved on the local level? The lesbian and gay movement is basically a grass roots movement, strong in local cities and towns and only now beginning to develop a national component. In a nation whose Congress recently struck down Washington D.C.'s revised criminal codes thanks to the anti-gay efforts of the Right, who seriously considers and debates anti-gay legislation such as the MacDonald Amendment and the Family Protection Act, and is the body capable of approving or disapproving increases in funding for research into AID diseases, we should all be thankful for the efforts of the Gay Rights National Lobby and the Human Rights Campaign Fund who are doing tremendous work with limited funding and staffing on all of these issues. Eric E. Rofes  
Boston

## thanks

Dear Readers,

We are the people who lost our homes and belongings due to arson in Roxbury. Most people think of Roxbury as a place to be avoided. To us and our neighbors in the Highland Park/Fort Hill area, it is a very unique community. Never did we realize this more than immediately after tragedy struck. We never had to ask for help; it was everywhere, a blanket of people who cared. We are of many different beliefs and ethnic backgrounds, but most of us share the same mind when it comes to our community. We like it here — a lot!! So this is a letter of thanks, first and foremost to our neighbors who are incredible and who made this ordeal much easier to bear. We thank GCN & Membership and all our friends in the Gay Community near and far for their quick and generous support. Also the Red Cross who filled our immediate needs while the flames were still burning and also offered future assistance. And thanks to Sen. Bill Owens who is always around when you need him.

Most Sincerely,  
George Dimsey  
Jesse E. Balerdi  
Larry Loffredo  
Roxbury, MA



## gay success

Greetings,

I am sure I am among many who take exception to Bob Nelson's angry and highly biased News Commentary "Gay Division from Blue's to the Waldorf" published in the October 16th GCN.

Mr. Nelson harshly faults the (gay) "800 well-dressed men and women" who attended a Human Rights Campaign Fund dinner at the Waldorf which featured nationally prominent politicians, including former Vice-President Walter Mondale. He contrasted the event with a police raid that same evening on a Times Square area gay bar. Mr. Nelson reached the conclusion the HRCF is becoming "increasingly concerned with its own narrow self-interests — getting a federal gay rights bill . . ."

One suspects there are few of us who would characterize the effort to pass a national gay rights bill as "narrow" or self-indulgent. Mr. Nelson ought be reminded that it was not many years ago when no hotel, let alone one of the calibre of the Waldorf, would let its facilities to a gay group. Nor was it many years ago when no public official, let alone a former Vice-President, would address a gay gathering. The police raid was unsoundable [sic], but it is precisely because we have such groups as the HRCF that such raids are a great deal less common than they used to be. Furthermore, the monies raised by the banquet will be devoted to electing candidates who will not tolerate such raids.

I do not believe that the 800 gay men and women who attended the fundraiser deserve the severity of Mr. Nelson's condemnation. Many of them, I am sure, have worked long and hard on a gay rights and, in addition, plunked down \$150 per plate for a gay cause. One might almost conclude that Mr. Nelson deeply resents gay success, or that he is blind to it. I just get the feeling from Mr. Nelson's strongly worded commentary that no matter how much one had devoted to gay rights, he would be there to remind them that they had in some grave way been misdirected and remiss. He is screeching at the wrong people!

Sincerely,  
Sturgis Haskins  
Point Harbor, ME

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## common sense

Dear Editors:

GCN's decision to publish Michael Bronski's polemic on the gay press's coverage of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) is greatly to be regretted. Indeed, given GCN's own curious neglect of a subject of consuming importance for urban gay men, to debut with material like the Bronski piece is inexcusable.

To the extent that I can follow Bronski's scattershot of allegations, he seems to say that the New York *Native* and the *Advocate* have seized upon the AIDS outbreak to promulgate sex-negative views. Even a cursory rereading of the *Native's* coverage shows how unfair a characterization this is.

In the April 11, 1982, *Native*, medical writer Lawrence Mass reveals the sexual repression that swept nineteenth century England following a series of VD epidemics. Mass then quotes novelist Edmund White as saying, "Homophobia is always beneath the surface in most gays. There's a high degree of self-hatred that's always looking for new ways to express itself. I think the epidemic is especially concerning in this regard." Isn't this the opinion that GCN's writer himself is trying to express, however inelegantly?

The writer's second allegation, equally indefensible, is that "the lack of any definite information [in the gay press] has allowed a number of assumptions and prejudices to color . . . reporting of an important and critical issue." The *Native's* coverage of AIDS, however, has consistently and calmly offered a cross-section of lay and medical opinion on the possible causes of the syndrome, as well as a sociological discussion of AIDS's effect on the gay community. (By contrast, GCN's coverage of AIDS has been almost nonexistent.) Much medical opinion suggests that frequent sexual contact may increase the risk of acquiring AIDS. Should we suppress this possibility, as Bronski would, because it may be inconvenient? We get enough censorship from the mainstream press already.

Bronski complains that none of the theories about AIDS have been proved. Shall we therefore refuse to take any precautions against illnesses whose cause, given the sexual history of those who have acquired Kaposi's sarcoma, may be sexually transmitted? If we were discussing the relationship between smoking and lung cancer, would Bronski insist on full knowledge of how nicotine and tar cause cancer before agreeing that smoking may not be good for one's health? I hope not.

I hope also that Bronski's article doesn't cause the death of someone who decides not to take reasonable precautions against AIDS because she or he fears it might be "politically incorrect." But then again, I suppose most people are equipped with more common sense than Bronski was when he wrote the piece, and with more judgment than GCN possessed when it published it.

Sincerely,  
Ted Stroll  
New York, NY

## News Editor

Gay Community News is looking for a News Editor. Responsibilities include making assignments, supervising writers, editing. Experience helpful. Low salary, benefits. For more information call Cindy or David at GCN, 426-4469.

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# Speaking Out Government Oppression: Gay Resistance

By Daniel Tsang

Since the advent of the Reagan administration, we have seen a wholesale retreat in any support of the civil rights of oppressed peoples in America, and indeed a threatening trend toward a more restrictive national security state. Ronald Reagan is no civil libertarian, democrat, or progressive union leader. As president of the Screen Actors Guild in the '50s, he was a polar opposite to Ed Asner, railing against Communists in Hollywood and elsewhere. In a July 30, 1951 article in Hollywood's *Citizen News* entitled "Reds Beaten in Hollywood," Reagan wrote that "We've gotten rid of the communist conspirators in Hollywood. Let's do it now in other industries!" With Reagan now in power, we have already seen a hardening in foreign policy, the prosecution of draft evaders, and an outright assault on civil liberties.

For lesbians and gay people, there is, I believe, a real likelihood that we are returning to the '50s red scare, although today, the buzz word is terrorism, domestic and international. In a new book Edward Herman, of the University of Pennsylvania, has documented how the U.S. and the mass media have labelled as terrorists those opposed to U.S. foreign policy, whereas the real terrorists, he maintains, are those client states of the U.S. who impose torture, murder, and other atrocities on dissidents in their countries, armed with weapons and devices supplied by the U.S.

When the U.S. Senate Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism held its first hearings last year, the witnesses and reactionary senators on the committee began to red bait anti-nuclear activists, charging they were linked to Moscow. In particular, the Philadelphia-based Mobilization for Survival, with an active gay caucus, was labelled as communist. With lesbians and gays becoming more and more prominent within the anti-nuke movement, the real possibility exists that the old refrain — pinko queer — will again be used to discredit many of us who are struggling to create a more humane society in the U.S.

In this atmosphere, it is not surprising that the national gay rights bill is getting nowhere, with right-wing fundamentalist Christians mounting campaigns against its passage. One hopeful sign, though: the Congressional page gay sex scandal fortunately fizzled out, even if the mass media enjoyed a few days of front-page sensationalizing. The page scandal was a precipitating event in that three gay papers, the *Washington Blade*, the *Advocate* and the *N.Y. Native* pooled their resources and began documenting government oppression and surveillance of gays, a type of investigative reporting that I would hope to see more of.

But let no one be misled that the conditions are still not ripe for a return to a '50s-type witchhunt. The anti-gay Congressman from Georgia, Larry MacDonald — author of the infamous legislation barring legal aid funds in cases supporting gay rights — has been trying to resurrect the House version of the Senate Subcommittee on Security and Terrorism — i.e., to bring back the House Un-American Activities Committee. If he is successful — and he is only votes short of that goal — the HUAC files — now sitting in the National Archives — will be brought back, reactivated, and brought up to date.

As various gay papers have documented, the FBI's surveillance of gay Americans dates back many decades. In the fifties, the targets were women and men active in the homophile movement. In the late sixties, after Stonewall, the FBI began to keep gay liberation groups under surveillance, believing them to be a threat to American security. The hundreds of files I have received from the FBI under the Freedom of Information Act on its surveillance of gay liberation groups, in the midwest and across the nation, document the extent to which the government sought to protect itself from any threat from organized lesbians and gays. In addition, homophobia was widely used in an attempt to discredit Huey Newton in the Black Panther Party, when he spoke up in support of gay struggles, and New Left leaders who were rumored to be gay. This use of poison-pen letters could well occur, since under the current regime, the FBI, not to mention the CIA, has been unleashed to spy on, and violate the civil liberties of, all Americans.

Today the targets in the gay movement are not the established gays and lesbians who are out, and no longer much of a threat to the governing regime (even the Coors brothers will buy full-page ads in the *Advocate*), but those lesbians and gays who are to the left of others in the movement.

One obvious example is the gay men who belong to NAMBLA, the North American Man/Boy Love Association. I know there is a wide diversity of viewpoints regarding man/boy love, among women, men, and youth. But what I hope we can recognize is the appalling lengths to which the government has sought to destroy NAMBLA and hence a part of the gay movement.

Many of NAMBLA's officers have been arrested on trumped-up charges; law enforcement officials have maligned NAMBLA as an organization that transports boys for illegal prostitution, when in fact, even the National Gay Task Force recognizes that NAMBLA is a civil rights organization formed to support both man lovers and boy lovers. In their request for files on the organization from the FBI, NAMBLA has been rebuffed, with the

FBI saying it cannot release any files because of an ongoing criminal investigation of the group. Files released to NAMBLA by the U.S. Postal Service indicate that its annual meetings have been under surveillance by, and attended by, undercover postal inspectors looking for the existence of child pornography. In addition, entrapment is used to lure unsuspecting and frankly naive gay men to part with photographs of their young lovers. And in congressional testimony before the Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice, the FBI has sought legislation to amend existing law to permit "electronic intercepts" — i.e., wiretaps — in cases of child pornography and exploitation, because boy love networks are deemed underground and clandestine, not penetrable by more standard police methods. I might add that the FBI has in the past sought legislation to legitimate what they are in fact already doing.

In reaction to the child porn hysteria of 1977, Gayle Rubin, then a graduate student in Ann Arbor, wrote, in an essay reprinted in *The Age Taboo*, that "the self-interests of the feminist and gay movements are linked to simple justice for stigmatized minorities. . . their presence can no longer be ignored nor their claims dismissed. . ." She said she was not suggesting that we abandon our critical capacity or feminist politics, or that the personal is not political. "On the contrary," she wrote, "I am proposing that a commitment to the notion that the personal is political requires a more complex political assessment of sexual diversity, based on case-by-case examinations." Both the mobilization of the sexual fringe, and the increasing politicization of sexuality, challenge feminism, she wrote, to develop a politics which can be pro-sex while remaining anti-sexist."

The danger in all this repression is for the lesbian and gay movements to decide, by will or by default, to sacrifice the sexual fringe, those with exotic and weird sexual tastes, to, in effect, the wolves. What I am saying is unless we see this as an attack on ourselves, and our sexuality, and not just on someone else's, we might as well go home and close up shop. Respectability will have won. Like it or not, it is at the sexual fringe that the frontier battles are being fought. It is no accident that it is over an article on man/boy love, and more recently on fist-fucking, that the *Body Politic* has been dragged through years of costly litigation in Toronto, and raided by the police. The established forces in society know where the movement is most vulnerable — they would never dare raid the offices of the National Gay Task Force.

In this atmosphere, then, one would hope that lesbians and gays will be able to unite to fight against repression. There is a disturbing sign that this is not happening, however. A lesbian custody group, CALM, in Philadelphia, has begun a campaign to get the local gay and lesbian community center to refuse to let NAMBLA hold its meetings there. In addition, the group has reportedly contacted the *Philadelphia Inquirer* to warn them of the upcoming meeting in the hope of stirring up some opposition among the straight community at large. I think we are beginning to discover that just as there is no one monolithic straight opponent, the gay and lesbian movements are composed of people of varying political perspectives, whose sexual preference is the only thing they share in common. The gay capitalist who is exploiting his workers will have very little in common with movement activists. In fighting back against repression, we need to know who our allies are. To be sure, even a gay capitalist may be cultivated for his support of gay rights legislation. But to expect that that man will support any more radical restructuring of society so that resources will be more equitably shared among all people — will be hopelessly naive. What I am saying is that we must go beyond single-issue politics, because we are not single-issue people — we're people of all different backgrounds and interests.

It is time for activists in the lesbian and gay movements to look beyond sexual preference as the only organizing tool. To be sure, to quote Kurt Hiller on the *Body Politic's* masthead — "the liberation of homosexuals can only be the work of homosexuals themselves." But that is insufficient — and in order to create a society that many of us, I believe, envision — one free of sexism, racism, homophobia, and the other ills of this society — we need to find allies among other progressive people.

For example, a long tradition of draft resistance exists in the U.S. How many of you know of gay youth who face the difficult choice of registering for or evading the draft? We need to link up with already established draft counseling agencies to offer our help to our gay brothers, or start our own gay draft counseling centers.

As government repression increases, as I believe it will under a Reagan regime, we in the lesbian and gay movements not only need to unite on issues of common interest, but also need to find allies in the progressive left. Only then can we hope to win over the government's repression of our politics and sexuality.

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Text of address given at Guidepost '82, Indiana's lesbian and gay conference, on Oct. 1, 1982, in Terre Haute, Indiana.

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## in common

Dear GCN,

The GAY DISEASE articles were on top of the issue. I really appreciate Michael Bronski questioning the role of antibiotics in the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. This is the first time I've seen the issue raised in print. It seems that the medical establishment will reconsider their own methods only at last resort and then only in private.

Just how many antibiotics have the AIDS victims taken in their lives? It would be a good guess that more of them have medications in common than sexual patterns.

And there are other questions. Why have we seen no mention of common dietary patterns? The medical establishment only within the last year reported studies that showed a direct correlation between diet and cancer. Are any of the victims vegetarians? Do they have workplace environments in common? Do they smoke? Do they exercise regularly? And so on . . .

Now we learn that homophobia is blocking funding for an all-out research program into AIDS and its opportunistic diseases. As the men in power drag their feet, figuring that we deserve this plague, the diseases kill more and more heterosexuals (and more and more of us). How many heterosexual white males will die before the funds are released? Homophobia backfires on them but it leaves all people at risk.

Sincerely yours,  
Jim Jackson  
Cambridge, MA

### Sub note

Our subscription files are ordered by ZIP code, not alphabetically. If you are corresponding with us about sub problems, *please* include your ZIP code or it will take a lot longer.

## compound confusion

Greetings:

Your October 9, 1982, accounts of the AIDS situation by Michael Bronski, Gordon Murray and Steve Peskind reflect an admirable desire to inform and calm your readers. But as you portray confusion within the gay community, I think you compound it yourselves. Is it fair to write, as Mr. Bronski has, that other journals of the gay press would report facts "each week" (both publications cited are biweekly) and then distance yourselves from those facts by placing ironic quotations around the word? Is it fair to pull quotes by Dr. Lawrence Mass out of context from his articles, which stand alone in all of journalism in their excellence, caution and, above all, constancy from the very outset of this problem in July 1981? Is it possible, then, that your three-article coverage, published *fourteen months* after the first Mass piece in the *New York Native*, is an effort to assume unto yourselves a righteousness you have not right to claim? I think it is. Deliver me from the righteous, that I may have freedom. Nathan Fain  
New York NY

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## Elections

*Continued from page 3*

overwhelmingly Democratic Senate. Owens, in a polished oratory marred only by a tendency to exceed his time limit, maintained that he is still the same progressive state senator who eight years ago introduced a gay rights bill, who appointed a liaison to the lesbian and gay community, who marched in this year's Lesbian and Gay Pride March and spoke at the Town Meeting, and who has pressured the state Department of Public Health to respond to the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome health crisis.

Bolling counters that he, too, supports gay rights, although he feels the issue would be more acceptable if it were termed "social rights." As a state representative, Bolling says his voting record is indistinguishable from that of Barney Frank, a noted supporter of "social rights" bills. One major

difference between the two voting records, however, is Bolling's absenteeism: during his tenure in the legislature, Bolling missed numerous votes, including roll calls on the death penalty, tenants' issues and prison reform. At a candidates' night sponsored by BLGPA, MGPC and CSJ, Bolling claimed to have Frank's endorsement, but a spokesperson in Frank's office later told GCN that no such endorsement had been issued.

Barney Frank's own campaign against Margaret Heckler for the newly-created Fourth U.S. Congressional District has been one of the most-publicized races in Massachusetts this year. After results from the 1980 U.S. Census revealed a shrinking population, Massachusetts legislators were forced to reduce the existing number of Congressional districts from 12 to 11. Frank's and Heckler's

districts were merged in the regrouping, creating a 1982 race between two incumbents. Heckler, a Republican who with 16 years' experience is the ranking woman member of Congress, criticized Frank during the last minutes of a recent televised debate for supporting the growth of pornography and prostitution. The charge referred to Frank's sponsorship as a state legislator of a bill which would have enabled municipalities to create "adult entertainment zones" in an effort to restrict pornography and prostitution.

Although the timing of Heckler's charge left Frank no opportunity for reply, Frank later sharply criticized Heckler for distorting the facts. That's a charge Frank has hurled repeatedly at Heckler throughout the campaign, mostly for allegedly misrepresenting her support for Ronald Reagan's economic programs.

Ironically, Frank is the candidate who has received endorsements by the National Organization for Women, the Massachusetts Women's Political Caucus and the Women's Action for Nuclear Disarmament. A longtime supporter of lesbian and gay rights legislation, Frank has also received the endorsement of the Massachusetts Gay Political Caucus. That Heckler has gone to great lengths to find immorality in "adult entertainment zones" while ignoring Frank's support for lesbians and gay men is worth noting.

And finally, after winning a hard-fought primary battle against Ronald Reagan's favorite governor, Democrat Edward J. King, Michael Dukakis has seemingly adopted a low profile in anticipation of an easy win against Republican John Sears. Dukakis has promised support for gay rights legislation in the past, saying he would sign a bill if it came across his desk. GCN's requests for information from the Sears campaign have gone unanswered.

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# Blue's Demo

Continued from page 1



Bob Nelson

telling passersby to "keep moving."

Meanwhile, Blue's continued to be a prime topic of conversation and one not exempt from political coloration. *GCN* had a long telephone conversation with Herb Rickman two days before the march. "We made a public statement calling for witnesses, but no one came forward," said Rickman, although six of the victims at Blue's have issued statements to the Civilian Complaint Review Board, an internal police investigatory agency. "The mayor's office is willing to offer them protection. What more do they ask?" Asked if he thought bar patrons might hesitate to speak up because of fears of retaliation, Rickman replied, "That's the most racist thing I've ever heard. Blacks participate in all phases of our political life in this city."

"You seem to have your conspiracy theories," Rickman continued. "Let me offer my own. Why is this community so taken with this Blue's issue when every lesbian bar in this city is in danger of being closed down by the state liquor authority? [Democratic gubernatorial candidate Mario] Cuomo doesn't want to see the SLA issue surface. That's why. He was supposed to issue a statement saying he'd appoint a more favorable commissioner. Where is that statement? Tell me that. Andy Humm knows all about that."

"I don't know all about this," said Humm. "Mario should issue a statement and we're trying to get him to do that. But that doesn't mean we're playing up Blue's because we don't want the SLA issue addressed. I've been at the community meetings about the

Duchess every week." In a reference to Mayor Koch's recent Democratic primary defeat, Allen Roskoff, president of Lesbians and Gays for Cuomo, added, "I think Herb Rickman is a sore loser. I hold the mayor responsible for what cops do in this city."

Speculation about what exactly had happened on September 29 at Blue's continued unabated. To bar manager Lew Olive's comment that the raiding party had been getting drunk in a bar on 44th Street before the attack, one former activist told *GCN* that ever since the Knapp Commission on police corruption in New York, there had been very strict rules about when police may enter a bar in uniform. "Someone would have had to notice 20 cops sitting around in a Times Square bar," said the activist. "I think that Blue's was raided on the same night as the Human Rights Campaign Fund Dinner as a message from the cops that just because we got Mondale doesn't mean we should start celebrating. The cops read the *Native*. They know what's going on with the gay community."

Others have held that in the current atmosphere of conservatism the police feel emboldened to attack more violently than they might have previously. A bar owner in the neighborhood said that the attack on Blue's was just another example of how police handle "problem" establishments in the area. "The streets around here are a battleground. The transvestites terrify people. Ninth Avenue is a gay drag space. The cops are supposed to control an uncontrollable territory. They've ripped up my bar any time they think they're dealing with a criminal element."

Street covered three lanes of Broadway, forcing traffic into one lane. Organizers estimated that 1,500 lesbians and gay men had marched; Manhattan Borough Police Commander Mickey Schwartz gave an estimate of 800. Herb Rickman, Major Koch's liaison to the gay community, watched from the platform of a police flat bed truck. Earlier, he told *GCN* that "there is no history of police attacking bars in New York. Mayor Koch's administration is supportive of this community."

Speakers at the rally manifestly disagreed with Rickman's statement, castigating police racism and calling for reparations and a

full investigation. Perhaps the most effective speaker was Rev. Renee McCoy of Harlem Metropolitan Community Church, who wore a minister's stole and punctuated her remarks by pounding one hand against a small black book. "To the New York City police, I have a message," said McCoy. "I hope you have enjoyed your days of glory because they are coming to an end. I promise you that."

"Parts of our soul are being brutalized and terrorized," continued McCoy. "We must not permit our community to be fragmented by the authorities. Their plan is to destroy us from the bot-

tom: black, Hispanics, lesbians and gay men. We must pursue more dialog within our communities. If we dare to love one another through oppression and into liberation, we will someday be free."

Gwendolyn Rogers of All People's Congress and People's Anti-War Mobilization moderated the rally, which heard a long list of speakers from Third World and gay and lesbian organizations. "The idea of having so many speakers was to kill time until the theater crowd got out," said Andy Humm of the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights, a speaker at the rally. But police would not allow spectators to stop and watch,

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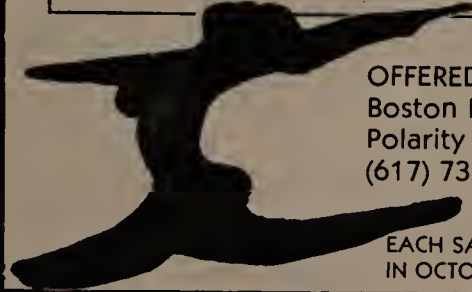
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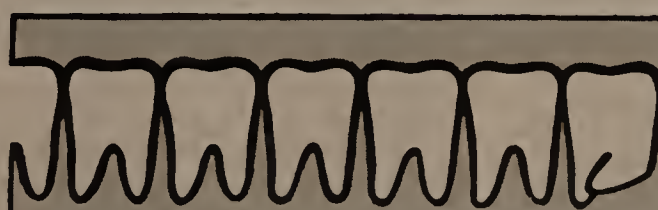
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# FROM VICTIM TO SURVIVOR

By Vicki Miriam

I interviewed Katherine Brady, the author of *Father's Days, A True Story of Incest, in anticipation of her trip to Boston to speak at the Meg Christian benefit for Incest Resources, Inc., in September. We bonded in that immediate way that incest victim/survivors can do, talking for many hours, each in different places in our incest journey but understanding the other.*

*Speaking out loud the words that we as victims never dared admit to ourselves is central to our healing. [In that spirit I offer this interview to those of us who suffered the abuse, and to those around us — our friends, lovers, family members and therapists — who want to understand and support us as we seek to become whole human beings once again.*

*Because Katherine's incest was with her father, this interview focuses on father-daughter incest, though this is not the only form of child sexual abuse. We began with Katherine's story.*

KATHERINE: I grew up in the midwest. The beginning of my incest memory was at age eight . . . being in a storm in the dark and going to my father who was the only parent there. My mother was a nurse and had gone back to work and she worked nights. His message to me was very reassuring: "C'mon, I'll take care of you, crawl into bed with me until the storm blows over. Anytime you get scared you can crawl into bed with me, Katy." Yet the way he said it was confusing almost from the beginning because his voice was different. It was the set-up of the incest.

I was a needy child. He would hug me, hold me close, and that felt good. People say, "Well, that means you enjoyed the incest." I say, "Wait a minute!" I was a little child. I needed touching, closeness, reassurance. *That* felt good. What didn't feel good was when he started touching my genitals

## EVERYTHING YOU GO TO YOUR PARENT FOR — TRUST, CLOSENESS, REALITY — GETS BLOWN IN THIS ACT OF SECRETS.

and breasts. That was absolute trauma.

His message then was, "It's okay if I do this but don't tell anybody, especially not your mother." Everything you go to your parent for — trust, closeness, reality — gets blown in this act of secrets. Reality just got turned around and I couldn't share anything that was happening in my life with anyone. The beginning of that burden I carried around.

Plus, I got the message from him that whatever was happening, for which I didn't have the word, was wrong because *I* was inciting it. And I believed him. I was his daughter. And he was *the father*, the big authority figure.

When I was around twelve, we moved and there was a respite for me. During that time, he went after my sister, Ellen, who is two years older than me. I remember seeing him do things like watch her take a bath, undress, make her leave the bathroom door open.

What she did was the classic case: at fifteen she got pregnant by her boyfriend, and my folks made her get married. I know because she told me that was how she ran away from my father's sexual advances.

Shortly after that, when I was fourteen, I remember this scene. It was so vivid. I was in my room that my sister and I had always shared. I was at the window watching a couple next door making love and I thought, Oh, that's how you do it. I was very curious, sexually curious, pubescent. My father was behind me and he said, "I know you like watching that." He startled me and I felt totally embarrassed — caught watching this nude couple making love.

That was the first time he literally seduced me with words and action in my very own bedroom and I was powerless to stop it.

I remember making one of those little decisions. Okay, I thought, I'm powerless to stop him: he's 6'1" and a corrections officer at the local prison. He's my father. I'm this little girl. I thought and acted like a little girl even at fourteen. I stood there mute, unable to stop him. And I'll be very frank, there was a part of me that was curious as to what he was going to do.

He did it and I remember thinking, Well, now I know. He did this and, my god, it's horrible and now it's over.

But, you see, that scene happened two to three times a week for the next five years of my life. Every single time, I sustained sanity by pretending that this would be the last time, always internalizing the

self-hatred I felt because of my powerlessness to stop it.

Incest is really an act of violence, aggression against one's psyche, let alone the physical. I felt my whole being had been invaded. Even though he didn't force himself and rape me in the incest, he raped everything in my life, my space, my mind, myself, and that probably psychologically was the worst damage.

I couldn't escape except by running off in my mind. That took its toll. It scattered my mind all over creation. For years, I'd try to concentrate and my mind would just go, or I'd be saying something and I couldn't remember what I was saying.

After ten years of incest, a senior in high school, totally entrapped by my father in this sexual power play, the only way I knew to get out of it was to belong to another man, promise myself in marriage to my high school sweetheart.

And then, after ten years of marriage, my husband said the same thing to me my father did. You have to sleep with me. And when my ex-husband said it, it reminded me of some voice long ago.

Of course it reminded me of my father and the act of incest which I'd buried all those years. The memory was so repulsive and such a monster I ran away from it, I couldn't deal with it. I couldn't even identify it. It took me two years of just trying to figure out what was coming up and not knowing that the name of it was incest.

VICKI: What was it like once you started dealing with the incest out in the open?

KATHERINE: Oh god, when it surfaced, it took over. Really, that's Pandora's box. That's the beginning — dealing with the feelings of all that [I] buried, all the baggage one carried around, this burden, this secret, this guilt. Out came all these feelings of years and the rage of it, the fear of it, the anxiety I had to look at. The whole thing of, Who am I now? Who am I now that I know about this incest with my father? What do I think about myself? Well, actually, I didn't even have a self. I was so conditioned to be a non-person.

It was almost overwhelming.

VICKI: In your book, you described starting to do therapy and letting your *sickness* come out. Would you say more about that?

KATHERINE: Luckily, the second time around I found a therapist who had integrity. The first one exploited me. What I found after I realized I could trust her was that I was borderline nervous breakdown. You know, the state when you're having trouble betting out of bed, really feeling the inertia of enormous emotional stress. The burden you've been carrying around all those years is finally there and either you're going to let go of it or not. I call that a sickness because I really was sick.

I could barely cope with life. I was at a point when I couldn't deal with my own children, and to me as a mother, you can't get into any more trouble than that. It was such an awful realization that I would have to let my children go to be with their father for awhile so I could get my shit together.

A lot of the feelings for me were rage. Rage and vindictiveness, the need to be compensated for what I had lost. And I'll be very frank, I insisted that my father pay for all the therapy I've had. I think at that point it was the least he could do.

I got through it, though. The point is you've got to share the burden of that enormous secret, whether you go to a psychologist as I did or get the support from a survivor's group. You just have to start talking about it and talking about it, and the more you talk about it the better it gets, the easier, the more you work through. Don't get me wrong. It's not easy or simple.

Still, to this day, each time I say it out loud I learn something about myself and I get more distant from the pain. And when I'm in a bad day, and we all have our bad days — I used to have months of bad days, now I just have a bad day now and then — I can still get back to those feelings, but I let them happen and then just work right through them.

VICKI: This moving through your feelings seems connected to defining yourself as either a victim or a survivor. In the last few years, as women have begun talking more openly about their incest experiences, understanding it from a feminist perspective, many have begun to describe themselves as incest survivors rather than incest victims. How do you think about yourself?

KATHERINE: It's a personal decision, really, whether you are going to consider yourself a victim or a survivor. On the last page of *Father's Days*, I called myself a victim — I'm a victim and I write this story



KATHERINE BRADY

for other victims. That was 1979 and I still felt very much a victim, in the sense that I felt hooked on the incest, held back by my past.

I think about a year after that book, going across the country to about twenty different cities, three major book tours, talking about my story — *my life* — gave me enough confidence and catharsis to realize — wait a minute, I survived. I'm not a victim anymore. That's when I made the decision — when I became aware of the fact that, Hey, nobody had me hooked on this incest anymore except my head. I had confronted my father, he did take responsibility, there was nothing more to do except to talk about it and feel the residue of feelings.

VICKI: I know that you've "put in your years" and "paid your dues," so to speak. It concerns me, though, when you say it's a choice you make in your head. I know that's true, but I think it's important for us to remember that part of the legacy of having been victimized as a child is that you become a victim. And you can't beat yourself over the head with that. It's part of the incest trap. I worry that women will punish themselves for not being able to snap their fingers and "de-victimize" themselves. People have to make the move when they're ready and try to be patient with themselves.

KATHERINE: Of course, it takes a long while and none of us knows how long it will take us. Everybody's different. It's a whole different mindset. It's change and god knows it's hard to change, especially if you've dragged around for years thinking, victim, victim. Nobody can give you survivor status. I can tell you I did it, but it's up to you to say, "Hey, enough is enough!"

And you don't necessarily have to go through the nitty-gritty of confronting the father or the parents personally. I know that a lot of people do that. But some people's fathers are dead, for example. They're just as angry as I have been. What can they do? OK, they can go to therapy, they can write letters, they can write books, there are many ways to get out and confront that don't necessarily have to be in person.

I had to do it. There was no way I could work through the incest without confronting this man and getting him to take responsibility for what he did to me, and then let go of it, or try to let go of it.

Some people are really angry at me for what I call

the beginning of forgiveness, but I'll tell you, it's something you feel. When my father marched up on the stand in that custody trial for my children and said, "I did it, I was the incest perpetrator, she was a little girl, I take full responsibility," it's incredible what that released in my psyche. That kind of responsibility-taking was helpful in getting me unhooked from the guilt trap of incest so I could begin to work through my feelings and let go of it.

I think it took courage on his part and it helped me start to think of this incest perpetrator as being human, erring greatly, not forgiving him totally, but beginning to see him as human and to put the incest into perspective as well.

Some people are angry at me for that, but I say, "Hey, you don't have to forgive your whoever-he-was, but I have to do what I have to do." And, of course, you don't want to forgive too soon.

VICKI: So, you feel that you're unhooked from your father?

KATHERINE: Yes. Most of us survivors and/or would-be victims got trapped into pitying poor dad who wasn't getting what he needed, getting his rocks off wherever, and that's a trap even as adult women. We are still faced with father, and pity comes up all the time. I catch myself and then I think, Oh no, I'm not going to take care of him anymore. I don't have to take care of him anymore.

Even now, they're old men. We want to protect them. But when people say to me, "Oh, I don't want to hurt them," I always say, "What about you?!! I don't care about him, what about you?!!" And they go, "Oh, yeah, you're right." Like you're an afterthought to yourself. Well, if you're an afterthought you're in trouble.

I don't let my father be alone with my kids. I am there when they seem him. I'm not going to risk it. Who knows? No experiments with my daughters, thank you. And I get a lot of respect for that, even from my ex-husband.

VICKI: How do you feel about those years when you defined yourself as a victim?

KATHERINE: Sad. The sadness comes from the loss of the childhood. And I didn't just get told this by a

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If you are an incest victim/survivor and want to make contact with other women, check the pages of GCN and the women's newspapers for information about groups, or write/call Incest Resources, Inc., c/o Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant Street, Cambridge, MA 02139, 617/232-2062.

Thanks to Claire for helping with the transcribing, and to all the women in my incest support group for talking with me about the interview and in general making life a lot more manageable.

good therapist. Sometimes I just find myself crying when I see my children do something that's very free child, happy, youthful, knowing that I never had that experience. I just break down and feel that loss.

That and the rage. Sometimes the anger comes back yet, and I suppose it will for many years, about my mother not protecting me. As much as I understand why she couldn't and why she didn't, it doesn't take that rage away entirely.

VICKI: Do you feel that you've worked through a lot of issues with your mother?

KATHERINE: My rage is pretty much worked through, and I want to build on the communication we do have. I find I am more considerate of her now — my vindictiveness is gone and I enjoy her presence. And I want this relationship. I'm willing to go halfway, which is a new thing for me. It's easier for us now to talk, while before it would have been a struggle. As survivors we weren't allowed to really have a relationship with our mothers. It's just the beginning, but I want to walk through the open door.

VICKI: We both know that incest abuse leaves us with baggage that we've carried into our adult lives. Could you talk about some of the ways it's affected you?

KATHERINE: Oh, sure. I think the incest has affected my whole life, my whole being, every developmental process. The biggest thing I think it did was stunt my emotional growth. At age eighteen, I was pretty much like eleven, and at age thirty-one, when I decided to divorce, I felt really adolescent because I was cheated out of an adolescence.

And the difficulty with intimacy is a biggie. It's really a biggie. And that's where I'm at now. The highest form of interaction with people is true intimacy. I don't know about you, but I want that. I really want that with one other person whom I love and who deeply loves me. And it seems that the more I want it the more difficult it is to sustain it.

Okay, real simple. Let's talk about it in a very simplistic way. I went to my father for love, closeness and touching. You go to a lover or a mate for that, too, right? The closer I got, what happened? Exploitation, devastation, no trust. After that set-up, how in the heck are we going to pull off true intimacy when all we've ever known is an abrupt devastation? So turning that one around I really see as my life struggle.

People say to me, Well, everybody's got that same thing. Yeah, but everybody doesn't have incest. Too many of us do, but not all of us. Those people who haven't had incest don't know what I'm talking about. I was open with my father. What happened? I got molested. My husband told me I had to put out for him. I trusted with a woman I was involved with. What happened? She said exactly what I feared anyone would say when I trusted them. My god, you were so needy you fucked your father. Well, is it any wonder I'm a little hesitant regarding intimacy? That's just going to take a long time and it's going to take, of course, the right love. I think it's important for women to say that incest causes great havoc with intimacy regardless of the gender of your partner.

VICKI: Do you find that some people think you've become a lesbian because you were an incest victim?

KATHERINE: It's always been [the] minority of people who think that. The media interviewers, for example, want to grab it, cause and effect. And I always say, "Well, you're the sick one, you're the one that's troubled, and it's called homophobia." I work with an army of mental health professionals, and we know that being homosexual is not pathological. There's always a homophobic soul around, but it's important to say there aren't that many.

I get all these straight women saying to me, "Am I going to turn into a lesbian?" And I say, "Hey, wait a minute. Lesbianism isn't something that just happens automatically, incest can't just make anything happen to you, and lesbianism is something you feel." And of course they look at me so blankly.

I do encourage lesbians to get into groups with lesbians and lesbian leaders. I think it's very important. If you're going to deal with incest, that's enough to deal with, let alone get into the whole thing about sexual orientation, and choice.

VICKI: Are you familiar with lesbian support groups for lovers and friends of incest victim/survivors? I know of a few groups around the country.

KATHERINE: That's the first time I've heard of it and I think it's wonderful. There's an enormous need. Women write to me often saying their relationships have been affected in almost every way by the in-

cest. It's important to have someone who loves you and who can understand and not doubly victimize you for your history. You can't help your history. You're dealing with it. If they can help you and keep their heads together while they're helping you, yea and amen.

Transference to a lover is so hard on the lover . . . and it's not fair. I don't know how many lovers I've put my mother's face on. I'm still angry at my mother and I have a hard time really being in touch with that when we're together. That's probably really the ultimate any of us has to do. I feel like I have really been able to get angry at my father.

VICKI: Let's talk about the Phil Donahue Show for a bit. [Katherine and her parents appeared on the Phil Donahue Show in 1979 and again in 1982. The first time, her parents were in shadows; the second time, they sat on either side of Katherine.] Incest rests so heavily on secrecy. Going on television is the ultimate refutation of that.

KATHERINE: I searched my soul before I did it. It was very scary. I was the one who had the need. As a midwesterner I identified totally with Phil Donahue and his audience of women. I used to watch him back there in the midwest as a housewife. I always felt I could tell Phil Donahue what I couldn't tell my husband.

I knew after struggling with *Father's Days* for almost five years in the writing process that a lot of people don't read and they were never going to march into a bookstore and ask for a book about incest. You couldn't pay them to do that.

It's almost incredible. We live in such a commercial world. I learned more about my father and the incest that first show on Donahue than I learned in all the therapy we had done. There on national television was where I finally understood that my father

## OH GOD, WHEN (THE MEMORY OF INCEST) SURFACED, IT TOOK OVER . . . DEALING WITH ALL THAT (I) BURIED . . . OUT CAME THE FEAR OF IT, THE ANXIETY.

had deceived himself. Maybe he had said it in therapy, whenever, but that's when I got it. It was almost mindblowing to hear him sit there describing that self-deception, because when you deceive yourself, you're in trouble. He told himself it was okay and thus he sustained his sanity and all his rationales those years.

You know, when we were kids, you couldn't call hotlines or anything. God, in Canada, they have hotline billboards for children. Anybody molesting you? Call blah, blah, blah. Now, little girls write to me, little girls come up to me and say, Well, you spoke out and I saw you on TV and I told my mother and she helped me.

There was an article in *Reader's Digest*, January of this year, and I felt satisfied, like I had saved a three year old.

I said, recently a woman in Seattle was watching the Donahue show and the family on the show was talking about incest. They didn't mention my name but we're the only family that's been on the show. The Brady bunch, you know. She got really suspicious because her husband had a fit that she was watching the show. She started putting two and two together. Her three-year-old daughter had been complaining about her genitals hurting. So hubby stalked off and after the show she asked this child, "If somebody's touching you in your private parts, you can tell Mommy and I'll make it stop." Did you hear that support?! And the little girl said, "Daddy is."

I felt like I saved the kid. I've got chills just telling you. And I can see tears in your eyes.

The woman threw the husband out. She called the cops on him. He denied it, which they all do, but she got him out of the house. She's prosecuting the bastard. Ha! Yea for her. He's appealing the case and it's in the Appeals Court now.

VICKI: The last sentence in the foreword of your book is " . . . and I've learned that by looking at it, releasing it from the prison of the past, letting it rise up into the present, I could at last leave it behind." I wrote in the margin, "Really?" What do you mean by being able to leave it behind?

KATHERINE: The whole thing about from victim to survivor. Being able to exorcise this monster from



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*Evita. With music by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Lyrics by Tim Rice. Directed by Hal Prince. With Derin Altay, R. Michael Baker, Robb Alton. At the Boston Shubert through Jan. 29.*

By Michael Bronski

Eva Peron led a life that was like a fairy tale movie directed by Lini Riefenstahl but written by Karl Marx. Poor girl comes to city becomes a movie star marries fascist dictator becomes the leading lady/personality of the country and *Life* magazine cover. She takes from the rich and keeps \$20 million in Swiss bank accounts while enthraling the poor with her style and glamour. At the height of her popularity she dies, and as her husband's corrupt government totters, the people demand that she be made a saint. But despite her transient fame, she is soon forgotten by most of the world.

There is an amusing epilogue, however (probably written by Borges). Not quite 25 years later two Englishmen write a rock opera/musical based (very) loosely upon the facts of her life and suddenly they have an enormous hit on their hands. Not only that, Evita has, once again, become a media event: TV movies, picture books, several major biographies, hit song (both regular and disco version) — not to mention three separate recordings of the musical's score. Don't cry for me, Argentina, indeed.

Composer and lyricist Webber and Rice have cleverly constructed their show — not unlike Evita herself might have done — to have the largest, most popular appeal. Beginning with her death in 1952, we are taken back on a *Citizen Kane* type tour through the past. For added irony, and to give the musical numbers some much-needed cohesion, the life of the populist fascist is narrated by revolutionary Che Guevara. We get to see both the good sides (she gets the vote for women) and the bad sides (she steals all the money people donate to her "good causes"). One has the feeling that we are supposed to ultimately view Evita as an enigma — possibly not unlike Brecht's Mother Courage — but she only ends up a muddle of contradictions. The music is generally non-offensive and the creators are smart enough to use the only great song, *Don't Cry for Me, Argentina*, again and again. (It's sort of like if *Oklahoma* were composed



**"Adore me . . . and Christian Dior me." Derin Altay as Evita at Boston's Shubert Theater.**

primarily of "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning.")

It's actually pretty slim material for a show. But director Hal Prince has been able to make what should have been scrambled eggs into a soufflé. Dragging out every glitzy theatrical device — video and slide projections, placards, banners, stylized choruses, revolving catwalks — and moving everything so quickly that we have little time to think he has managed to make *Evita* both thrilling and have as much style as the first lady of Argentina herself did. Both Derin Altay and R. Michael Baker give high-charged performances as Evita and Che. (Both are, by the by, stunning to look at, she in her haute couture '50s Parisian fashion drag and he in what looks

like mid-'60s SDS guerri-la-symp drag). You have to give a lot of credit to an actress who is actually able to bring off a line like: "I come from the people/They need to adore me/So Christian Dior me . . ." Lyrics aren't the strong point in the show; in fact, Tim Rice seems to be able to cram more clichés and hackneyed expressions into a line of music since early Sonny and Cher.

Taking his cue from the political content of the material, director Prince has opted for a very Brechtian concept: *Evita* deals with the relationship between politics and stardom; issues of class, imperialism, and power are brought up, Che makes a running commentary, thus making us (supposedly) think about the material we are watching. All the usual accoutrements of typical Brechtian staging are used. Everything in fact is here except a coherent, cogent political point of view. It is not that we want to know, "Well, was she really *good* or *bad*?" (those questions are best left up to God or *Time* magazine), but it would be nice to know where *Evita* stands vis-a-vis her makers.

If the real Evita managed to market terrible politics (the Peron regime was fascist, repressive, anti-Semitic, and just out and out corrupt) with great style, her namesake show does much the same. The basic problem is that Rice and Webber have nothing to say — except that Evita was a star — and although they take apparent pains to give a balanced picture the show cannot but end up by glorifying and idolizing its title character. Also, because the show insists on dealing with everything on such a superficial level — the connections between movie stars and politicians are all too evident in our own lives and government — that it cannot help but trivialize and make offensive its basically serious subject matter. It's not

*Continued on next page*



No, this isn't a photo from last Saturday's anti-Klan demonstration. It's a scene from *New Rise of the Master Race* in which the Moral Majority and the KKK join forces to persecute communists, gays and liberals. Special benefit performance for *GCN* Saturday, October 30. Check elsewhere in this issue for details or call 426-4469.



## Don't Cry

Continued from preceding page  
that fascism shouldn't be dealt with in a musical; it just shouldn't be dealt with in a shallow, witless musical. (One almost has sympathy with devout believers who complained about Webber and Rice's earlier hit *Jesus Christ Superstar*.)

As an event *Evita* raises interesting questions as to the whys and wherefores of who and what catches the popular imagination. Why, after 25 years, should Eva Peron become a popular figure again? Glorified and villified in her time as both a whore and a saint, a political genius and a clever charlatan, Eva Peron nevertheless was a specific woman at a specific time who performed specific actions (mostly politically retrogressive). By mythologizing her — and *Evita* continues the mythologizing that began in Peron's own lifetime — she becomes not so much a product of her time and place but symbolic of all political women. Perhaps *Evita* is not specific backlash to the gains of feminism. I just don't think that Eva Peron's popularity would rise again so rapidly in a world that was *not* dealing with feminist demands and ideas. *Evita* does not make us understand *anything* any better than we did before. It dazzles with style when it should be illuminating with content; it raises hard questions that are danced away to a tango beat. In the end *Evita* does not elucidate but trivializes both Eva Peron and fascism. A bad trend: we'll end up crying for more than just Eva Peron.

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# SURVIVOR

Continued from page 9

my psyche, at least begin to exorcise it by the writing process, by the therapeutic process, by the counseling process, helping other people.

I'm not a therapist, but I get a lot from making myself available to somebody in crisis, usually over the telephone. It's a final resolve for me, my path. I've worked through a lot, and now I can turn around and offer up my experience to somebody.

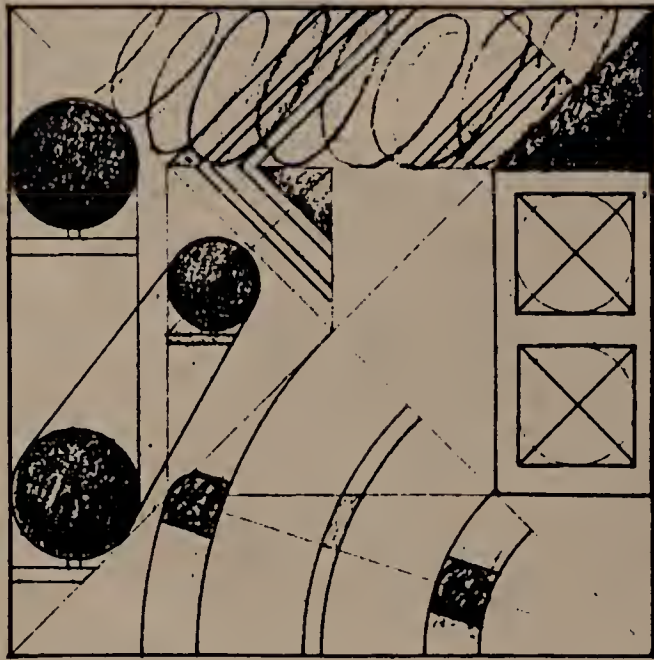
Outreach. Making contact, you know. I do a lot of networking. That helps me to maintain the solidarity that I need, to know

that I'm not alone, as I say to everybody else. I need to know that, too, that I'm not alone, that the incest wasn't my fault. I still need my batteries recharged. But basically, all these processes, and certainly the book *Father's Days*, helped me to put the incest in the past.

Somebody said, "Well, are you ever going to get over this, are you permanently damaged?" And I, I don't know. I think you don't charm away the effects of incest. I mean, intimacy is still hard for me. But I refuse to say that I'm permanently damaged.

Everybody experiences damage in life — but sores heal, wounds heal, and I feel I'm pretty healed.

And you know, it feels good, just for a little aside. And you know what else feels good? Joy feels good, and love feels good. To wake up and have a terrific day, or a whole series of terrific days, or months, you know . . . whereas it used to be awful all the time. Take it from me, it feels good. Hope, hope, do you hear hope?



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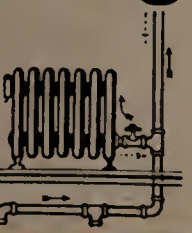
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Jeff LINDUFF, 100852, Box 97, McAlester OK 74501

Seeking correspondence and intimate relationship. All replies gracefully accepted and cordially answered. Darron CAMPBELL, 39234, Box 900, Jefferson City, MO 65102

Scorpio, college student. I enjoy reading, writing, all music, fashions, jogging, and all sports. John C. WILLIAMS, 160-313, Box 45699, Lucasville, OH 45699

In college, Business Admin. Returning to N.Y.C. area no later than 3/84. Needs moral support. Donald KELP, 82A600, Box 307, Beanon, NY 02508

Everyone calls me Little Bit, because I am a little person, but I have a lot of love to give to the right person. Anyone out there that is sincere in having a relationship or long lasting friendship, please write. Robert JOHNSON, 123937, 777 W. Riverside Drive, Ionia MI 48846

Lonely Inmate wishes to correspond with understanding person, seeking friendship but lasting relationship is very possible. Ronald STURN, 039550, Box 747, Starke FL 32091

I would like to write to anybody that's got some friendship to offer to a prisoner who has no family and is a long way from home. Daniel KIMBALL, 37627, Jefferson City MO 65102

Upon my release, which will be soon, I am re-locating to MA. I wish to correspond with young gays in or around the Fall River area. Robert DUNAHUGH, 3102 E. Highland Ave., N-21, Patton CA 92369

I don't know anybody here, so it has been sorta hard on me, but I've made it this far. I'd like to hear from someone that doesn't mind talking in letters. Brian BALDWIN, Box 37, Holman Station AL 36503

Seeking correspondence from open-minded and level-headed guys. I am gay and proud of it. William HAIDEIT, 157-155, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699

Ken BASS, 165-377, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699

Johnny ADAMS, 103912, Box 97, McAlester OK 74501



TO ALL THOSE WHO IN AND OUT OF PRISON FIGHT AGAINST THEIR BONDAGE (Alexander Berkman, Prison Memoirs of an Anarchist).



Lonely Capricorn seeks real friends. I enjoy dancing and the finer things in life. Sorry to read about the fire: hope you are back on your feet and all goes great. Paulette HERRELL, A150145, Box 147, Lowell FL 32663

Hey out there. I enjoy dancing, short conversation and love in return. Would love to hear from persons who have a good heart and integrity. Irene JOHNSON, 350697, Box 147, Lowell FL 32663

Native New Yorker almost done with my time, thinking about some fun. Anyone interested in helping me refresh my memory feel free to write. Patti LOMBARD, 229691, Box 147, Lowell FL 32663

Capricorn woman very open-minded and looking for a partner to marry or just love. Pat CUNNINGHAM, 5913, Box 180, Muncy PA 17756



NOTE TO PEOPLE WHO WRITE PRISONERS: If you get no response (rare) from writing one of the prisoners, it may be because he/she has been moved to another prison (and they don't usually forward mail!). One of prisons' main ways to destroy attempts by prisoners to defend themselves with lawsuits and to form "unions" and social support networks generally is to keep moving the "troublemakers" (the type that read GCN, for example) from one prison to another. It is also a form of punishment for activism to move them away from where their families and friends live.

Would anyone donate a lonely lesbian some jeans or T-shirts. Please write first so I can send a clothing permission slip. D. JOHNSON, 06141-016, Box A, Alderson WV 24910

My days here are spent listening to music, reading what I can (books are so scarce) and watching TV. I am very lonely and in desperate need of a friend. Terry HUGHES, 41260, Unit-4, Parchman MS 38738

In need of a gal or guy to dominate me completely. I'm into S/M and urolagnia. Someone out there please write me. Harrietta POPE, C-24, Box A, Alderson WV 24910

Debra JACKSON, Box A, Alderson WV 24910

I have a business degree and a promising future. I will be home in the spring and am looking for someone sincere to assist in re-entry. Peter SULEWSKI, BBCE, Box 5137, Jessup MD 20794

I seek correspondence with a sincere gay or transsexual who is willing to establish a warm affinity through mental, social and spiritual intimacy. Randy WRIGHT 60298-061, Box W, Lumpoc CA 93438

I am slender with long brown curly hair and bright green eyes. I need a close and lasting relationship with a man I can truly trust. Duane ISAAC, 38982, Box 906, Jefferson City MI 65102

Bisexual seeking real relationship with someone special in this area. Thank you for your time. Dennis ALBERT, 202891, Box 316, Ft. Madison IA 52627

Bisexual, red hair, green eyes, seeks longterm relationship. Sincere, broad-minded, no hang-ups. Will answer all. Clifford HALLMAN, A-025985, Box 747, Starke FL 32091

ATTENTION ALL PRISONERS!!! Sexy, rude, hotshit rag looking for stories of your TRUE fucking experiences, in and out of jail, for anonymous publication. You'll get a copy of any book using your letter. Any language you send will be used (including your four-letter words)! Send your hot little stories to: Boyd McDonald, Box 977, Radio City Station, New York City 10101.

I'm very interested in hearing from anyone in the gay community who would like to correspond with a lonely gay person. Prefer age 13 and up. Thanks very much. Bernie Van WAGNER, 084168, Box 1000, Leavenworth KS 66048

Young man in prison would like to hear from other lonely people. Please write soon: Michael MURPHY, Box B-88647, Represa CA 95671

This prison has stopped all gay publications before and we fought it and won (for awhile). Now they're doing it again. GCN has been good support to those of us in prison. Would you please run an ad for me saying that I'd like to be someone's penpal out there. Thanks. Robert SCOTT, 624655, Cedar Hall B-11, Box 900, Shelton WA 98584

I'd like to know if I could receive a copy of your newspaper that I might pass around to the other gays in here. The prison library won't accept anything like that as they don't accept gays very well in here. Thank you. And if you could put my name in your penpal column I'd appreciate it very much. Ken WINGROVE, Box 57 #167-126, Marlon OH 43302

I would like to correspond with people out there in the free world in hopes I can meet someone I might become interested in for a sincere relationship. Jimmy SMITH, 158-210, Box 45699, Lucasville OH 45699

Seeking correspondence with gay male to 30 for possible meeting upon release in 1983, CA or WV area. John Marc TURNER, C-46613, Box A, San Luis Obispo CA 93409

Heard about your paper from a gay brother here in prison and would like to correspond with other gays of all races. I'm very much in need of someone to love. Robert SOTELO, C-12349, Box A, San Luis Obispo CA 93409

Kenneth COTTON, 81A3309, Box 51, Comstock NY 12821



# Calendar

## weekly events

### sunday

**Boston, MA** — Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY) drop-in center for youth 22 and under from 3:30-5pm at Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. (Beacon Hill). Info: 497-8282. Please send all BAGLY mail to: GCN, Box 10GY.

**Boston, MA** — Black and White Men Together of Boston meets at 2pm the second Sunday of the month at 57 E. Springfield St. (So. End). Info: Richard 247-3043 or Tom 536-3392.

**Cambridge, MA** — Overeaters Anonymous, lesbian meeting. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. Sun eves 7:30 pm, DOB office.

**Framingham, MA** — Tricounty Assoc. (Framingham, Millis, Franklin area). Social and support group for gay and lesbian community. 1st Sun. Info: 376-4323 or 473-3529.

**Boston, MA** — "Musically speaking," women's music, ideas, announcements. WMBR, 88.1 FM. 1-3pm.

**Boston, MA** — Gay and Lesbian Physicians of New England. Second Sundays. 2pm. Info: (617) 482-6874 or 247-5485.

**Keene, NH** — Potlucks and other fun get-togethers for lesbians. First Sun. (2pm) and third Tues or Wed (6pm). Info: Keene Klondykes, Box 261, Gilsum NH 03448.

**Concord, NH** — Concord Area gay Youth, support group for youth 16-22, rap session and social time. Carpools & counseling available. Info: Scott or Joe 224-6931.

**Acton, MA** — Central Middlesex Social Club meets at 7:30pm. Info: Carleton 466-8177. All are invited.

**Orono, ME** — Wilde-Stein Club. Social/support group for lesbians and gay men. Informal, friendly and open meetings. Peabody Lounge, 3rd fl, Memorial Union, UMO. 7pm.

**Orleans, MA** — Shoreline, a social group alternative to the bars on Cape Cod, meets second Sundays. Info: Box 1614, Orleans, MA 02653.

**Northern VUNH-League of Gays (LOGS) meets third Sun. Info: (802) 626-3618 or write: Box 703, St. Johnsbury, VT 05819**

**Central VT** — Central Vermont Gay Men (CVGM) meets first Sun. of the month for socializing, business and a meal. Info: Box 42, Barre, 05641.

**Boston, MA** — Boston's Other Voice. (WROR, FM 98.5) 11:30pm.

### coming events

**Boston, MA** — Lesbian and Gay men will be marching against the Klan in the Nov. 6 National Demonstration in Washington DC. Bus tickets for the round trip from Boston are \$30 (\$35 if you can afford it). Buses will leave Boston Common at 9pm Friday Nov 5 and return Sunday morning about 5 or 6am. Tickets are on sale at Glad Day Book Shop, 43 Winter St., Red Book Store, 136 River St. (Camb.), Freedom Center at Arlington St. Church, and at GCN, 167 Tremont St.

### oct 24 sun

**Boston, MA** — Orientation for new and old members of the Gay and Lesbian Speakers' Bureau. Questions about speaking? Want to join? Call 354-0133 for info.

**Brookline, MA** — Lesbians Outdoors. Potluck brunch to plan November and December activities. Info: 232-9187 or 884-5595.

**Cambridge, MA** — Paradise Bar is sponsoring a meeting of Peter Vellucci, winner of the Dem. primary, with Cambridge/Somerville gay and lesbian voters. 2pm.

### 25 mon

**Somerville, MA** — Moonwise Coffeehouse, a coffeehouse by and for women, located in the Somerville Women's Center, 1 Summer St. (Union Sq.) Carol Goodman will be performing blues music tonight. Doors open at 7:30pm, performance at 8. \$2 donation. Info: 628-6311. (Also, the center needs women to help staff the phones.)

### monday

**Portsmouth, NH** — Seacoast Gay Men. 7pm. Info: P.O. Box 1394, Portsmouth 03801.

**Nashua, NH** — Nashua Area Gays meet 8pm. Info: Tony 888-7933, or write: Nashua Area Gays, Box 3472, Nashua 03061.

### tuesday

**Brattleboro, VT** — Southern Vermont Lesbian and Gay Men's Coalition meets on the second Tuesday of the month at the Common Ground Restaurant, 25 Elliot St. 7:30pm.

**Cambridge, MA** — Daughters of Bilitis. Discussion and social group. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. (Harv. Sq.) 8pm. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Info: 661-3633

**Pittsfield, MA** — Berkshire County Gay Coalition meets 2nd and 4th Tues. Info: (413) 442-7772.

**Hartford, CT** — Greater Hartford Lesbian and Gay Task Force meets at Hill Ctr., 350 Farmington Ave. 7pm (First Tues.) Info: 249-7691.

**Manchester, NH** — Manchester Men's Group, weekly support group for gay and bisexual men, meets Tuesdays at 7:30pm for coffee and discussion. Info: Joe (603) 224-6931.

**New London, CT** — New London Gay Men's Forum, support group for gay and bisexual men. Info: 447-0155 (Noon to 7pm).

### wednesday

**Boston, MA** — Fathers in Transition, a group of gay/bi fathers meets Weds. for friendship and support. Info: Gay Fathers, c/o GCN Box 6, 22 Bromfield St., Boston 02108, or call Exodus Ctr 266-0612.

**Boston, MA** — Boston Alliance of Gay and Lesbian Youth (BAGLY). New persons' meeting 6:30pm; general meeting and group discussion 7-9pm. For youth 22 and under. Evangelist Church, 35 Bowdoin St. (Beacon Hill) Info: 497-8282.

**Boston, MA** — Walk-in VD screening and treatment for and by gay men. 6:30-8pm. Fenway Community Health Center, 16 Haviland St. (near Auditorium stop). 267-7573.

**Nashua, NH** — Greater Nashua Area of NH Lambda sponsors speakers and/or raps on the second Wed. and 4th Thurs. of each month. 7pm. Business meetings on first Sats. 5pm. Info: (603) 889-1416.

**Bridgewater, MA** — South Shore Gay and Lesbian Alliance meets Weds. Info: 584-4997.

**Hartford, CT** — Lesbian AA meeting. Hill Ctr., 350 Farmington Ave. 8pm. Info: (203) 232-9737 or 742-8203.

**Cambridge, MA** — The Democratic Socialists of America are sponsoring a discussion between Betty Friedan, Barbara Ehrenreich and Donald Bell about "Feminism, the family and the New Right." Kennedy School of Gov't, Boylston (Kennedy) St. (Harvard Sq.) 8pm. Free.

### 26 tues

**Salem, MA** — "Gay and Lesbian film night" presented by North Shore Lesbian and Gay Alliance. Films include "Greetings from D.C." and "Pink Triangles." 7:30pm. Day Lounge, College Union, Salem State Coll. Free.

**Boston, MA** — Mass. Solidarity Coalition. An evening of education and mobilization on the 1982 Mass. referendum. "Reject the right and support people's needs." UMass Boston, 100 Arlington St. 7:30pm. Info: 354-0008.

### 27 wed

**Boston, MA** — Lunchtime for Lesbians? Isolated during the workday downtown? Interested in a lunchtime hangout/discussion group? Initial meeting today at Noon, at 80 Boylston St. (corner Tremont and Boylston) Rm 855 (Gay and Lesbian Counseling Service offices). Info: 542-5188. (Not a therapy group)

### 28 thurs

**Boston, MA** — GCN proofreading. Call 426-4489 if you have some time to help out. (We also need help on Weds. sometimes.) See next week's news this week!!

**Boston, MA** — Boston Gay Men's Chorus meets every Wed from 7-10pm at the YWCA, 140 Clarendon St. (So. End). Info: 625-3247.

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbian "coming out" group, new weekly open rap group, is now meeting at Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. (Central Sq.) 8-10pm. Info: 354-8807

**Cambridge, MA** — Daughters of Bilitis. 35+ women's discussion and social group. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass. Ave. 8pm. Second Wed. and last Fri. of each month.

**Hyannis, MA** — Lesbian Support Group meets first Wed. of every month. 7:30pm. New members welcome. Orientation, social meetings. Warren Women's Center, 298 Main St. Info: 771-6739.

**Boston, MA** — Lesbian and Gay Media Advocates (LAGMA) meeting. 7:30-9:30pm. New members welcome. Help make the media more responsive to our needs. Info: 542-5679.

**Augusta, ME** — Gay/Lesbian AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) meeting. All Souls Unitarian Church, 11 King St. 8pm. Open to all.

**Providence, RI** — Transvestite/transsexual meetings. 8pm. Info: 272-9247

**Hampden County, MA** — Social/Support Group for Lesbians. 8pm. Info: Debbie 532-5878 or Julie 532-4959

### thursday

**Boston, MA** — Boston Area Lesbian and Gay History Project. 7:30pm. Info: 424-1993.

**Somerville, MA** — TV/TS Peer Support Group. Gender Clinic. Info: Martha 666-8280.

**Northampton, MA** — Pioneer Valley Gay People's Alliance now forming. First and Third Thursdays. Info: (413) 586-5979.

**Nashua, NH** — Greater Nashua Area Chapter of New Hampshire Lambda sponsors speaker &/or raps on the 2nd Wed. and the 4th Thurs. at 7pm. Business meetings on the 1st Sat. at 5pm. Info: (603) 883-9228.

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbian Liberation, an open discussion group. 8-10pm. Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. Info: 354-8807.

**Boston, MA** — The Mass. Gay Political Caucus meets on the first and third Thursdays at 7:30pm. 755 Boylston St. Rm. 215. New members welcome. Info: 471-8404

**New London, CT** — Lesbian and Gay community at Connecticut College weekly meeting. Discussion, planning and outreach 9pm. Fanning Hall Rm 412. Info: 442-7458.

**Boston, MA** — NAMBLA (North American Man Boy Love Assoc.) meeting at Glad Day Book Shop, 43 Winter St. (near Park St. stop) 7:30pm.

**Boston, MA** — Northeastern U. School of Law Gay and Lesbian Caucus will be showing the film "Pink Triangles: A study of homophobia" at 1:30pm and 7pm. Law School, 400 Huntington Ave Rm 97. FREE!

**Boston, MA** — The Jewish Lesbian Writers' Group will meet. New members welcome. Info: Judith 547-2874.

**Northampton, MA** — Pioneer Valley Gay People's Alliance is sponsoring the American premiere of the German film "One Berlin/Harlem." Tonight thru Nov 2. Pleasant St. Theater. 7 and 9pm.

### 29 fri

**Boston, MA** — GCN volunteer night. Come help send out the paper to our subscribers and enjoy good company and free refreshments. Anytime after 6pm, at our new space, 167 Tremont St. (near Boylston T stop, above Dunkin' Donuts, 5th floor). If you come later than 8, bring a dime and call from the nearby street phones because we have to lock the downstairs door.) Thanks!

**Boston, MA** — Annual Dignity Halloween Party. 9pm — 1am. Costume dance with DJ and prizes. Arlington St. Church (corner of Boylston & Arlington Sts.) \$5 (includes one drink).

### 30 sat

**Boston, MA** — Gay Community News Benefit performance of "New Rise of the Master

**Cambridge, MA** — Lesbians with children. Support group. 8-10pm. Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St. 354-8807.

### friday

**BOSTON, MA** — GAY COMMUNITY NEWS (THAT'S US!) ALWAYS NEEDS HELP SENDING OUT THE PAPER ON FRIDAY EVES. COME BY FOR A FEW HOURS TO OUR NEW SPACE AT 187 TREMONT (ON THE COMMON, NEAR BOYLSTON T STOP) ANYTIME AFTER 6 AND LEND A HAND. REFRESHMENTS AND GOOD TIMES! EVERY BODY WELL COME! INFO: 426-4469. THANKS!

**Hartford, CT** — Your Turf, a weekly drop-in center for lesbian and gay teenagers. 7-9pm at the Hill Center, 350 Farmington Ave. (upstairs). Sponsored by the Coalition of Sexual Minorities.

**Pittsfield, MA** — Weekly meetings of Lesbians United. Info: Women's Services Center, 499-2425

**Concord, NH** — Concord's Men's Group meets Fridays at 7:30pm for coffee and discussion. 67 Thorndike St. Info: Joe 224-6931

**Providence, RI** — Rhode Island Gay and Lesbian Youth meets every Sat. from 1-5pm for youth 14-21 years of age. Info: MCC 272-9247 or Gay Help Line 751-3322 (eves).

**Cambridge, MA** — Amazon Lesbian Al-Anon, Mt. Auburn Hosp. (Living room, Clark Bldg.) 8-9:30pm. Newcomers meeting from 7:30-8pm on the last Friday only.

**Boston, MA** — Watchline, an action organization for gays and lesbians monitoring anti-gay/lesbian violence. Report incidents to Watchline (Mon. Fri. 7-10pm) (617) 262-5250.

**Boston, MA** — Front Runners Boston, gay and lesbian running group. Info: 825-0181

**Boston, MA** — Chiltern Mt. Olyb. Regularly scheduled sports and outdoors events. General Info #s: John 275-1336; Linda 734-4066; John 864-0823. Volleyball: Jay 262-4896.

**Rece," et Overland Performance Gallery, 26 Overland St. (off Brookline Ave., near Kenmore Sq.) Come and enjoy yourself for GCN, in costume or as your usual freekee self!**

**Boston, MA** — "Trite Nite," an open vaudeville stage at the Caudron Experimental Theater, 22 Randolph St. (near Dover T stop, off Harrison Ave.) 8pm. Info: 542-8575.

### 31 sun

**Boston, MA** — Prostitutes' Union of America (PUMA) Hookers' Ball benefit to help with office expense and bailing prostitutes out of jail. East Coast Sound Band, rhythm and blues. Prize for best costume. 8pm. Hotel Lenox, Dome Room. 710 Boylston St. \$8 at New Words or Camb. Women's Ctr. \$10 at the door. Info: 524-7507.

**Boston, MA** — Halloween of Poetry, costumes and surprises at the Caudron Experimental Theater, 22 Randolph St. (near Dover T stop, off Harrison Ave.) 8pm. Info: 542-8575.

### nov 1 mon

**Cambridge, MA** — DOB rap night for Lesbian Parents and Co-Parents. 8pm. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. (Harvard Sq.)

**Cambridge, MA** — Double Edge Theater Productions presents "Blood Rubies," a play focusing on a young woman's struggle for survival as a victim of incest. Every Thurs, Fri and Sat eve thru Nov 12. 8pm. Old Cambridge Baptist Church, 1151 Mass Ave. Info: 776-9474.

**The deadline for Calendar items is Monday at noon for the following issue.....**